

Preface

Many people have been involved in producing this collection of essays and many thanks are in order. I am grateful to the editors and publishers who originally edited and published these articles; many of them were written by a young, emerging scholar. As the senior editor of the *Journal of Feminist Studies in Religion*, I am well aware of how much care and work such editing takes. Although I did my best to avoid overlaps and cut pages, it is in the nature of a collection of essays such as this that ideas and arguments are repeated. While the individual essays were written for variegated audiences, their collection and order in a single volume changes their context and rhetoric.

I am very grateful for the help I have received in preparing the manuscript. My faculty assistants, Ms. Hayfa Abdul Jaber and Ms. Robin Lee, not only contacted publishers for reprint permissions but also worked hard to scan articles not available in digital format. I am also greatly indebted to my research assistants, without whom this work could not have been completed. Ms. Young Ra Rhee labored hard to convert the scanned texts into editable documents, and Ms. Kelsi Morrison-Atkins carefully proofread the manuscript. To both a heartfelt thanks. Without their capable support I would not have found the time and energy to start and finish this book.

Changing Horizons is the second volume of a three-volume project. While the first volume, *Transforming Vision*, gathered my feminist the*logical essays, this volume assembles some of my exegetical and hermeneutical work. I am grateful to Fortress Press and especially its former editor-in-chief Michael West for his enthusiastic support of this project. I am also indebted to acquiring editor Neil Elliott for his assistance, Susan Johnson, former managing editor at Fortress Press, for working out contractual issues, Marissa Wold for coordinating all aspects of the production and manufacturing process, and Josh Messner and Jo Quanbeck for their careful editing of the manuscript.

I also want to thank my colleague Dr. Linda Maloney for her initial translation of the chapter titled "The*logy as Rhetoric, Ethic, and Critique of Ideology," first published in my book *Grenzen überschreiten: Der theoretische Anspruch feministischer Theologie. Ausgewählte Aufsätze*. Her work allowed me to prepare a revision for this chapter.

Last but not least, as always I am deeply grateful to my partner, Francis Schüssler Fiorenza, and to Chris Miryam Schüssler-Fiorenza for their support,

love, and friendship. I also want to thank the members of my fall 2011 seminar on feminist biblical interpretation for their spirited discussions, thoughtful contributions, and critical challenges.

This book is dedicated to a leading feminist biblical scholar who has departed too early from us. Jane Dewar Schaberg's pathbreaking scholarship on Mary of Magdala and her book *The Illegitimacy of Jesus* have not only greatly shaped the field of feminist biblical studies but also have had great public impact. Jane's friendship and vision will be missed greatly. Although already very ill, Jane graciously accepted the dedication of this book in honor of her work. She consulted with me also on her own collection of essays, on which she worked with professor Holly E. Hearon during the last months of her life. Unfortunately, Jane will not be able to see the publication of this collection of essays. I am glad that she was able to complete her own collection, entitled *The Death and Resurrection of the Author and Other Feminist Essays on the Bible*.

When asked in one of her last interviews by a student what she hoped for the future of her own work, Jane responded: "I would like to see my work remembered and myself as a good scholar—not just for being attacked—and a feminist." We all need to ensure that what Jane and other feminist biblical scholars who have passed on "have done, will be told"—not just their transforming scholarship but also their feminist struggles.